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Britain Asks For Postponement Of Jap Peace Treaty Date

Washington, July 16. The United States State Department has accepted the British Commonwealth explanation that August 15, the date announced earlier today for the Japanese peace treaty conference, was inconvenient. The United States is expected to agree to a postponement of the negotiations until sometime in September.

Malay Youth Organisation Branded

Singapore, July 16. A Malay youth organisation with a membership of ten thousand, mostly of Indonesian blood, has been declared an "unlawful society" by the Governor of the Malay Union, Sir Edward Gent.

The organisation, called the API, and "freedom through blood" as its slogan. The Governor's action followed the recent conviction of the API leader, Ahmad Boestaman, on a charge of sedition.

During the trial, the judge described Boestaman's political testament as a "splendid invocation to Malay youth to join the API—Angkatan Pemuda Insaf—and achieve independence through blood in the shortest possible time."

He held that its tendency was to excite subjects to alter the present system of government through violence. The judge then fined Boestaman, who appealed, later withdrew his appeal, paid the fine and then resumed leadership of the movement. The API was formed early in 1946 out of the Malay National Party, which was founded towards the end of the Japanese occupation with the object of making Malaysia part of the Indonesian Republic.

MEMBERS' UNIFORM

Before the arrest of Boestaman, the API members wore a uniform consisting of a white shirt with the API flag, white trousers, black socks (Malay national head-dresses) with two red and white buttons. Red and white are the Indonesian colours. The officers wore red ties.

The API flag, which was flown at all meetings and demonstrations before Boestaman's arrest, showed a black clenched fist against a red and white background.

In banning the organisation, Sir Edward Gent said he had taken into consideration the political testament in relation to the Society's declared objects, and was of the opinion that the Society was used, or was likely to be used for a purpose incompatible with the peace, good order and well-being of the Malay Union.—Reuter.

EDITORIAL CORNER

"LADIES and Gentlemen Of The Jury . . ."

WHEN a handful of women some months ago formed themselves into an organisation for the express purpose of obtaining recognition of their public spiritedness by inclusion on the Jury List, it is probable that very few other members of the same sex have much thought to the implications. It is almost certain they never expected to find themselves in a position where they might become slaves to the law. That, however, is precisely the situation in which they will find themselves after the amended Jury Ordinance has passed its third reading. Morning coffee "dainties" and afternoon bridge and mah jong parties will have to give way to the inexorable call of duty, which happens to be backed by law to the extent that a juror, wilfully absenting herself, is liable to a fine, and even imprisonment. A testing time for Hongkong femininity is at hand. The excitement of going three down on a grossly overbid slam is about to give way to the mental and physical discomfort of sitting for hours listening to tedious evidence, forensic fireworks and impassioned summings-up, with the ultimate responsibility of deciding whether a person has or has not been proved guilty of a crime against society; a searching test of the genuine public-mindedness of our womenfolk. Of course, Government's decision to include women on the Jury List wins approval, if only for the reason that it helps to bring Hongkong a little bit up to date. More important, it may encourage our women to take another step towards their responsibility—offering themselves as candidates for the future Municipal Council. If they need encouragement they will find it in the knowledge that a woman's point of view in public affairs is no longer discounted; on the contrary, it is sought.

And As An Afterthought

DURING the past fortnight, the Press of Hongkong, on behalf of the public, has tried hard to obtain from the military authorities answers to the questions, who committed the Tokunaga and Salto offences; why, and how? If

August 15 was not convenient in the British view because it clashed with the British Commonwealth Conference to discuss the Japanese peace treaty due to meet at Canberra on August 20.

This view had already been tendered informally to the State Department by Australia and New Zealand, as well as by Britain, and India was expected to follow suit.

It is reported from London that the Foreign Office tonight had described as "inconvenient" the date of August 15 proposed by the United States for an 11-power conference on the Japanese peace treaty. In an official communique, the Foreign Office said that the date would not be convenient as Britain had already accepted an invitation from the Australian Government for a preliminary exchange of views among members of the British Commonwealth to take place at Canberra on August 20.

The British Government, the communique added, welcomed the American proposal for an early conference, and hoped it would therefore be possible to agree with the Far Eastern Commission on a date after the Canberra meeting.

SOVIET PROTEST REPORTS

Reports were current here and in London that Russia has already registered strong objections to the holding of the proposed conference on August 15, though this was not mentioned in the State Department announcement.

The reports said that these objections were registered when Lieutenant General Walter Bedell Smith, the United States Ambassador in Moscow, discussed the matter with Mr. Molotov, the Soviet Foreign Minister, shortly after General Bedell Smith had returned to Moscow after a visit to Washington recently.

M. Molotov is said to have objected promptly and emphatically, arguing that the Council of Foreign Ministers should handle the Japanese treaty, as in the case of Europe. General Bedell Smith is understood to have replied by reiterating the views already vigorously expressed by Mr. Ernest Bevin that other countries had taken an important part in the Pacific war and must be represented.

The State Department announcement of the Conference said: "In view of the serious commitments of the Foreign Ministers of the Governments concerned, it does not appear practicable to the Government of the United States to propose that such a Conference be on the Foreign Minister level, so it is envisaged that it would initially be composed of deputies and experts."

It is understood that the United States has already done considerable preliminary work towards drafting a tentative pact. The Washington meeting is likely to be confined largely to agreement as to procedure and establishment.

It is reported from a reliable source that Britain will be represented by Mr. Hector McNeill, the Under-Secretary of Foreign Affairs, while the other countries are likely to be represented by similar ranking deputies.

It is reported from Paris that the United States Government's invitation to an 11-power conference to start work on a peace treaty with Japan has been received by the French Government with great satisfaction.

Particularly satisfactory is the fact that the United States issued the invitation directly and on equal terms to the 11 powers particularly interested in the Pacific.

The alternative, it is stressed, would have been to hold the conference within the framework of the Advisory Commission for the Far East set up in Moscow in December, 1945, and on which Russia, the United States, China and Great Britain have the right of veto.

The American invitation is taken in Paris to mean that all the eleven nations attending the conference will have an equal voice in preparing the peace treaty, with no veto right.

There is speculation in official French circles whether the Soviet Union will accept, and in any case, it is expected that Moscow may raise objections because the conference was not called within the Advisory Commission framework.—Reuter.

ROUND-UP OF LEFTISTS

Greece Situation

Prague, July 16. The Yugoslav news agency, Tanjug, today reported new mass arrests of Leftists in Greece, with 2,500 seized in Athens and Piraeus alone.

A dispatch from Athens said, "New mass arrests of democratic citizens have taken place throughout Greece. A further 2,500 persons have been arrested in Athens and Piraeus alone. So far, 70,000 citizens have been arrested in Athens and Piraeus and approximately 80,000 in the provinces."

Tanjung said those seized on Monday included 10 editors and employees of the newspaper "Rizospastis" and nine from the newspaper "Eleftheria Elada."

"The monarcho-fascist authorities have begun to transfer prisoners to the island of Ikaria," Tanjug said. "Rizospastis" reports that orders have been issued for the arrest of the Communist Party, and other leaders of the Left.—United Press.

BATTLE OVER

London, July 16. The Exchange Telegraph reported from Athens that an announcement tonight said the battle of Grambalia had ended with the guerrillas being put to flight.—United Press.

"INTERFERENCE" COMPLAINT

London, July 16. The Tass news agency reported from Belgrade today that Gen. Markos, leader of the Greek guerrilla forces, condemned the United States and Britain for "interfering" in the Greek civil war.

In the name of the "High Command of the Greek Democratic Army," Gen. Markos said: "The British and American authorities are lending support to Greek royalists and fascists and are fanning civil war in Greece which is reaching large proportions."

A communique distributed to Belgrade newspapers by the Albanian Telegraph Agency reviewed British and American aid to the Greek Government. It accused American officers of participating in Greek army staff conferences, and said: "We have ample grounds to assume that British airplanes took part in air raids against rebel forces."—United Press.

Workmen's Compensation

Government is taking steps looking toward the introduction of uniform workmen's compensation in the Colony, the Hongkong Telegraph learns.

Officials are holding conferences with representatives of larger industries and labour organisations as a preliminary to drafting an ordinance. Progress made so far is "purely preparatory," the Telegraph was told.

Some Hongkong industries have their own workmen's compensation programmes, which operate on a voluntary basis. It is understood that Government is seeking the views of these business leaders and of labour leaders on what might constitute a fair and workable compulsory scheme adapted to the Colony's needs.

SI-Nippard's Condition

The condition of Sub-Insp. L. G. Nippard, member of the New Territories Frontier Force who was wounded seriously two days ago in a gun battle, was called "as good as could be expected" this morning.

The European Inspector is at Kowloon Hospital with a bullet in his back. An operation to remove the shot may be undertaken today.

Inspector Nippard and PCC Lau Chek-wah suffered bullet wounds Tuesday night when they challenged three Chinese in the vicinity of Ma Cho Lung Gap. The Chinese opened fire and ran toward the Shatin river. The officers were hit in the gun battle which followed.

HK COUNCIL OF WOMEN

In an effort to encourage women to take a larger part in the Colony's social and civic affairs, a group of women leaders is sponsoring formation of a Hongkong Council of Women.

The movement is an outgrowth of the group brought together a few months ago to seek legislation permitting women to serve on juries.

The Council will be non-political and non-sectarian and eventually will seek affiliation with the International Council of Women, according to preliminary plans. Individual memberships will be open to all women over 18, and women's clubs and organisations may elect representatives to the council.

Mrs. W. L. Calcraft is serving as temporary chairman of the group.

GLOOMY MR MORRISON

London, July 16. The Lord President of the Council, Mr. Herbert Morrison, said at a press conference today: "I must warn the country we may well be faced with a serious transport prospect during the coming winter, affecting mostly heavy goods, bricks, cement, iron and steel."

He said food was unlikely to be affected. "Shortage involves the risk of slowing down in our industrial activity and in the building trade during the winter season," he said.

He added that the problem was railroad freight cars. Mr. Morrison said Britain's recovery depended "upon international decisions."

JUNE EXPORTS UP

He said the provisional export figure for June was £93,100,000, which was the highest figure since December 1920.

The keynote to his comments was a sharp warning that short-term prospects of the country were tough but long-term prospects were encouraging.

"In terms of effort and achievement, June shows quite good results, but in relation to our present problems and difficulties quite good is a very long way from being 'good enough,'" Mr. Morrison said.

"Whether it will be a long and very rough road or not so long and only fairly rough depends upon international decisions," he added.—United Press.

JET-PROPELLED FLYING-BOAT

London, July 16. Britain's first jet propelled flying boat fighter aircraft, the Saunders-Roe A1, made a successful first test flight today.

The A1 is a single-seat aircraft, driven by two Metropolitan Vickers jet engines, mounted side by side in the hull. As the aircraft is still on the secret list, no further details are available.—Reuter.

TWO COLUMNS OF SPORTS NEWS

BRILLIANT BATTING BY DONNELLY

Rain Affects Cricket

London, July 16. Rain took toll of most county matches today, but at Lords, where the Gentlemen met the Players, the match was not interfered with, and a brilliant batting display was given by Martin Donnelly, New Zealand Test player and Oxford captain this season.

Workmanlike Marino Wins

Glasgow, July 16. Salvador Dado Marino, 31-year-old Hawaiian from Honolulu, beat Rinty Monaghan, Irish flyweight boxing champion, who defended for the world champion, Jack Peterson, in a non-title fight here tonight.

The Irishman was disqualified in the ninth round of the ten rounds' contest for alleged persistent holding.

Marino took a definite step towards achieving his ambition of winning the world flyweight title from Faberston as the result of tonight's fight.

His performance was a great one. He gave away nearly half a stone to his powerful and rugged opponent, but fought to such good purpose that the issue was never in doubt.

In spite of this disadvantage in weight and the fact that he was several years older than the Irishman, Marino did a workmanlike job of beating one of the outstanding flyweights in the world. He took some heavy punches from the Irishman—punches which would have dropped most men, and he suffered a bad cut over his left eye in the fourth round.

Nevertheless, Marino dictated the fight throughout. From a bad start when Monaghan dropped him for two with a right to the jaw, the winner forced the exchanges. He drove Monaghan before him in practically every round and it was only in spasmodic bursts that the Irishman looked dangerous.

Monaghan fought gamely and was warned for alleged holding in the second and third round and twice in the ninth before the referee stopped the fight, giving the decision to Marino.—Reuter.

French Tennis Championships

Paris, July 16. The American girl players have all won their first matches in the French tennis championships. Here are the results of the main matches.

Women's singles: Miss Osborne (U.S.A.) beat Mrs. Muller (South Africa) 6-0, 4-0, 6-3. Miss Brough (U.S.A.) beat Mrs. Peterdy (Hungary) 6-1, 4-0, 6-4. Miss Manfredi (Italy) beat Miss de Sorman (Belgium) 6-2, 1-0, 6-0. Mrs. Kormoczky (Hungary) beat Mrs. Strubcovova (Czechoslovakia) 6-1, 4-0, 6-3.

Women's doubles: Mrs. Mathieu and Miss Velveers beat Mrs. Barber and Mrs. Claude 6-0, 6-0. Miss J. Cannon and Miss Guebler beat Miss de Borman and Mrs. J. Foy 6-2, 6-0. Mrs. Amoretti and Mrs. Charpentier beat Miss Carria and Mrs. Marcellini 6-3, 6-4.

Men's singles: Pellizer (France) beat G. L. Palsch (Britain) 1-6, 6-0, 6-4, 6-7, 6-1.—Reuter.

NY Yankees' Long Lead

New York, July 17. The New York Yankee wins have turned the American League pennant race into a slam-bang. Just as last year when Boston's Rex Sox ran away from competitors, other contenders are so busy eliminating one another that the Yanks are pulling out of sight.

Their current lead is 10½ games. But Yankee Manager Buckley Harris does not like that sort of thing, for he is fully aware of the misfortune into which his team can run.

Other and perhaps better teams have blown longer leads at much later dates. But the current well-balanced Yankee Club with persistently steady hurling keeps on winning while the second place chances hands day after day.

Ten and a half games is not an impossible handicap to overcome in mid-July but none of the other first division teams appear to be capable of making a sustained drive.—Associated Press.

Death Of Mr Norman Railton

One of the Colony's best known personalities and formerly a prominent sportsman, Mr Norman H. L. Railton, died this morning at St Paul's Hospital after a brief illness.

The son of Mr N. L. Railton and the late Mrs A. M. Railton, Norman spent close on 30 years in Hongkong, and the Far East with Messrs Jardine, Matheson and the Indo-China Steamship Company.

The late Mr Railton was, before the war, a Lieutenant in the Hongkong Volunteers, and was a very good marksman. He was injured at Stanley and returned to Hongkong last September after repatriation leave.

In his early days he was a prominent sportsman, being a keen and skilful tennis player and also a footballer. He was a playing member of the Ladies' Recreation Club, the USRC and the Hongkong Football Club. He was also a member of the Sports Club.

Mr Railton leaves a wife, who is in Hongkong, a son who is living at Burton-on-Trent, and three brothers—Manning and Eric who are in Hongkong, and Cecil who is in Singapore.

The funeral takes place this afternoon, passing the Monument at 4.30. A service will be conducted by the Dean, the Very Rev. A. P. Rose.

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COMMENCING TO-MORROW: "OUTLAW"

THE ART OF LAUGHTER

BY TED CAVANAGH

the man who created ITMA, and
who has written the script for it
week by week for the past eight years"WHOA, hold it, hold it—
give psychology one more
chance!"

FOR the past 30 years or so I have spent most of my time in trying to make people laugh. The amount of material that I have written for stage and radio comedians must now total, I suppose, several millions of words.

Eight years of writing ITMA week by week themselves amount to a respectable aggregate—in quantity, if not in quality—and it appeared that more laughs were scored by the 255th edition than by the first.

I say this not at all out of vainglory. (I can think, easily enough, of better ways of occupying myself.) But I suppose it allows me to assert that I do not yet know the rules governing laughter it is certainly not through lack of application.

Are there any rules?

There are; but they are all rules of thumb.

**Two brothers
make £3,000,000
in a year**

by BERNARD BARETT

TO the brothers Oscar and Max Kleemann, 30 was a notable anniversary. For, since that June day a year ago, their family fortunes have risen by almost £3,000,000.

Few people in the City paid much attention last June when dealings started on the London Stock Exchange in the 2s. shares of O. and M. Kleemann, Ltd., at 22s. 3d.

To them it was just another plastics business. But they soon sat up and took notice. These Kleemann shares boomed as few shares had ever boomed before.

Within three weeks they had doubled in value. They went on with hardly a pause to break through the £5 mark.

Then the directors decided to split each 2s. share into two shares of 1s. each. Today, those 1s. shares are worth 56s. each, equal to £5 12s. for the shares which stood at just over £1 last June.

They won't sell

The Kleemanns hold between them 1,300,000 shares, now worth about £3,640,000.

Oscar and his sons, Jack and Derrick, both of whom are directors of the business, have 650,000, and a similar number is owned by Max on his own account or in trust for his son and daughter.

Despite the astonishing rise in value none of the Kleemann family has sold a single share. Nor do they intend to sell any.

In 1905 Oscar, then 23, had £30 and plenty of ambition. He rented a room in Redcross-street, in the Cripplegate district of London and set up in business as an importer of hair slides and combs from Oyonnax, in France.

It was wholly a one-man business. Oscar did all the buying and selling himself. Then, two years later, he was joined by his younger brother, Max, who, like himself, had no money but lots of drive.

Gradually the brothers widened the base of the business. They did a big trade in toys from Germany, bought fancy goods and electrical equipment from Japan, toilet requisites and glassware from Czechoslovakia.

Huge turnover

But what made the name Kleemann talked about in London was the firm's huge business in imitation pearl necklaces. These were imported by the million and retailed at 3d. and 6d. each.

At one time Kleemann's turnover in "pearls" soared to between £150,000 and £200,000 a year. And they had a profitable trade, too, in imitation jewellery from Czechoslovakia.

The brothers' prosperity increased steadily until the 1930s, when political disturbances abroad and import duties began to cloud their prospects.

"Why shouldn't we make the stuff in this country instead of importing it?" they asked themselves.

On the way home from Japan Max was shown some combs, which he admired. He was still more interested when he was told that they had been made on a machine "which turned them out like sausages."

Took a risk

The combs were made from plastic on an injection moulding machine.

The description of the machine meant nothing to Max, but when he arrived in London he talked it over with Oscar.

"They decided to risk £2,000 in importing two of the machines from the United States."

The machines were installed in a miniature factory in Welwyn Garden City, and on May 26, 1939, the Kleemann brothers started making their first plastic combs.

When war came, the machines were at work. Now came the new problem. "What about the raw material?"

Oscar did not hesitate. He decided that the firm must undertake the tricky job of making the cellulose acetate moulding powders it needed.

The plant was bought and installed at Welwyn. But it produced the material for few combs. Nearly all its output was needed to make components ordered by Government departments for the war effort.

Output leaped

When the war ended the Government encouraged the company to extend its activities in one of the development areas.

So it established a big factory at Ayelife, near Darlington, and its output leaped more than five times. Not content with doing more than 1,000,000 combs a week and large quantities of other articles, Kleemanns are selling raw materials to overseas markets and also to the comb-makers in France from whom they bought their first goods.

The one-time tiny enterprise now claims to have more large size injection moulding machines at work than any firm in Europe.

From £30 in 1905 the value of the business, based on the quotation for its shares, has soared to £5,600,000.

If you ask Oscar the secret of success he will tell you, "Hard work. That's all."

Work, in fact, is Oscar's only hobby.

Making people laugh is an art, not a science. You have to learn how to do it by experience, by guesswork, by trial and error.

There are no laws that govern it, there are only empirical generalisations. You are dealing all the time with responses so unpredictable that the most experienced practitioner can never be altogether sure.

One man's mirth is another man's poison. A jest that will set a West End audience in a roar will fall completely flat in Shepherd's Bush. There is a vast difference between the humour of two adjoining counties—Yorkshire and Lancashire. There are class differences in humour, regional differences, variations as between Englishmen and Scotsmen, between Britons and Americans.

There are well-marked differences between what men find funny and what women find funny. (I do not say that women have no sense of humour; but I know from experience that women are hurt or puzzled or bored by humour that men find irresistibly funny. Knockabout comedy, for example, amuses most men but very few women.)

Why men laugh

LET me venture cautiously on a few generalisations.

Generalisation No. 1 is this: The common factor in all humour is a sense of superiority. That 17th century philosopher Hobbes got very near to the root of the matter when he defined laughter as a sense of sudden glory.

When you see someone slip on a banana skin, when you see someone receive a custard pie in his face, when you see dignity discomfited by impudence—you laugh because you feel a sense of superiority.

This sort of humour can be kindly or not. You can laugh either at the victim or with him.

Most Englishmen (and nearly all Englishwomen) prefer to laugh with rather than at. They do not much like cruelty in their humour.

By Englishmen I include the Scots and the Welsh. I do not include the Irish, who like their laughter to have a large dash of mockery in it.

English (all right then—British) humour is on the whole kindly.



Now the taste for mockery is increasingly characteristic of a great deal of American humour. It is the stock-in-trade, for instance, of the cartoonists of the New Yorker. Sometimes it becomes a mirthless mockery, a bitter, acrid exhibition of human weaknesses and human shortcomings. It is superiority without a smile.

The more sophisticated the level at which you are aiming the larger the admixture of mockery you can permit yourself. You can heighten the sense of superiority to the point where it is not very far removed from contempt.

Here, I think, a certain dividing line can be drawn between the sexes. The sense of superiority in women is far more delicate and subtle than it usually is in men. A woman tends to look on the follies and foibles of human beings with a tolerant good nature that is much stronger than it is in a man. This is attributable, I suppose, to the maternal quality in every woman.

She may laugh at a custard pie comedian, but if she does it is a tribute to her male companion rather than to the comedian.

Why women laugh

IF I had to write a script for a performance to be given to an audience of women only I would base myself on the jest that every woman enjoys—the jest at the expense of masculine stupidity.

It has been discovered experimentally that you can draw laughter from an audience anywhere in the world, of any class or race, simply by walking on to a stage and uttering the words "I am a married man."

Husbands are intrinsically comic. Aristophanes knew that as well as any contemporary writer of revues or film scripts. The essential absurdity of husbands, their willingness to be imposed on by their wives, their infinite capacity for being duped, gulled, hoodwinked, persuaded against their inclinations—these are the basic stuff of laughter.

It is a jest that every woman shares with every other woman—and that every man appreciates because he supposes that it is true.

only of other husbands, never of himself.

A pendant to this fact is the universal popularity of the mother-in-law joke—I never fails. The reason is—and I say it against all opposition—that most men like and admire their own mothers-in-law. In her they see what their own wives will be like later on. The comedian would say, of course, that they are merely only trying to laugh it off—but then comedians must have their jokes.

The comic husband

IF husbands ceased to be funny the gaiety of nations would go out like a candle, and persons like myself would go out of business. Fortunately there is no danger of either.

The laughter-provoking qualities of the Married Man can be made both visual and audible. There are not so very many jests of which this is true. It may be that with the coming development of television the need for exclusively audible humour will pass. But the last two decades of broadcasting have made audible humour flourish as never before.

The limitations on exclusively audible humour are severe. Without visual aid the comedian has to exploit every nuance of his voice, and the man who provides the material must explore the furthest recesses of the verbally incongruous. It is because of this, I think, that radio humour has exploited (and continues to exploit) the art of the catchword.

Catchphrases

THE Englishman has a well-marked weakness for the comic catchword. In our humour, as in other matters, we prefer the familiar to the unusual. And the Victorian music-hall comedian founded himself very largely on this fact.

You could almost write the history of Victorian music-hall in terms of its catchwords. We don't want to fight. Get your hair cut. What ho, she bumps. Have a banana. The list is not complete, but any middle-aged Londoner can go on adding to it.

The catchphrase is, I think, as much a part of English humour as the kindly sense of superiority. It provides the collective element, the feeling of a shared joke, the touch of human nature that makes all men kin. A catchphrase has become something that you enjoy in common with everybody else who listens to the radio.

But if there is any formula for the creation of successful catchphrases, I have not been able to discover it. Like all other jests, they have to be found simply by trial and error.

The most accurate analysis of all these matters, so far as I know has been made by Harold Nicolson in his essay "The English Sense of Humour." It is an admirable scrutiny—witty, penetrating and scholarly. Perhaps I may sum up the art of laughter by quoting what Mr. Nicolson has to say about a radio show that features a comedian called Handley:

"It is packed with descending incongruities, denials of expectation, releases from constraint; it exploits the naive-comic, all forms of rigidity or pretension, self-importance and professionalism."

There you have—in language more formal than I would venture to use myself—exactly what I understand by the art of laughter.

BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

STAUNTON FARRAGOE—"lucky Staunton" to the City—stood to win four or five million, or lose his entire fortune.

Yet, intent as he was on the deal, he had time, as he sat tensely at his office desk, to ring up Nimblesby and order the head gardener to send five hundred roses by car to Mrs. Wicker's lodging house in West Kensington. "It isn't decent," said Mrs. Wicker, as the two chauffeurs blocked her hall with the flowers. "Very useful for counteracting the reel of cabbage," commented Lynette cynically. "You are ungrateful," snapped her mother. "Do you expect me to wear them all?" asked the girl wearily. And at that moment Paul Treason, the struggling poet, as poor as a church mouse, called with a small bunch of primroses. With a pang Lynette realised that this humble offering touched her heart, and that this was the man she loved.

Getting organised

THE plan to make Sussex a satellite county, and to evict all its inhabitants to Kent, is being stoutly opposed by the War Office, which has earmarked both counties for a training area.

"To get over this difficulty," to quote an official, "the millions of foreign tourists expected next summer will be diverted to recently seized bird sanctuaries, where a holiday camp will be opened for them since all hotels are needed by the Government."

If, however, these bird-sanctuaries are needed for rocket-ranges, landing-grounds or dog-parks, Hampshire, Dorsetshire and Wiltshire will be nationalised as a Planners' Zone.

Office conversation

Suet: Miss Kipper, what are all these units of multiple registration doing in the basket?

Miss K.: Miss Sudders thought they should be left until the other duplicate twos came in.

Suet: Have they been up and down yet?

Miss K.: No, sir. Mrs. Scowle has those, ready to return.

Suet: Return where?

Miss K.: To Miss Frazer, for interim registration pending circulation to sections S. V. M. and R.

Suet: Very well. Send them back as soon as the others come in.

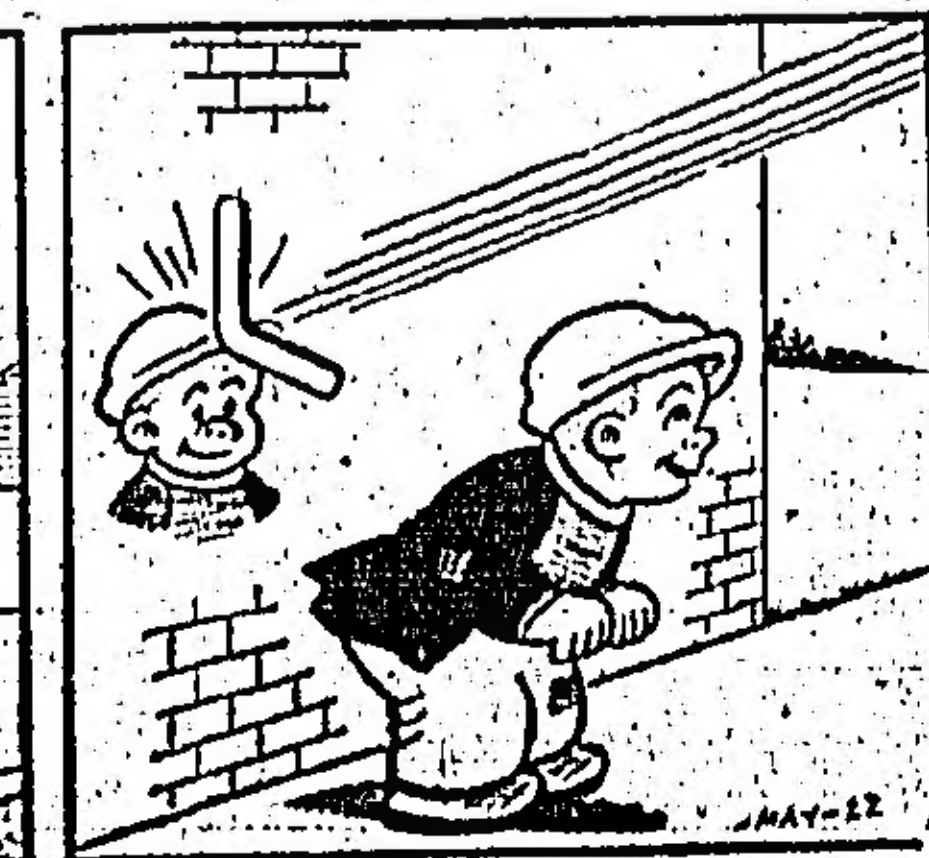
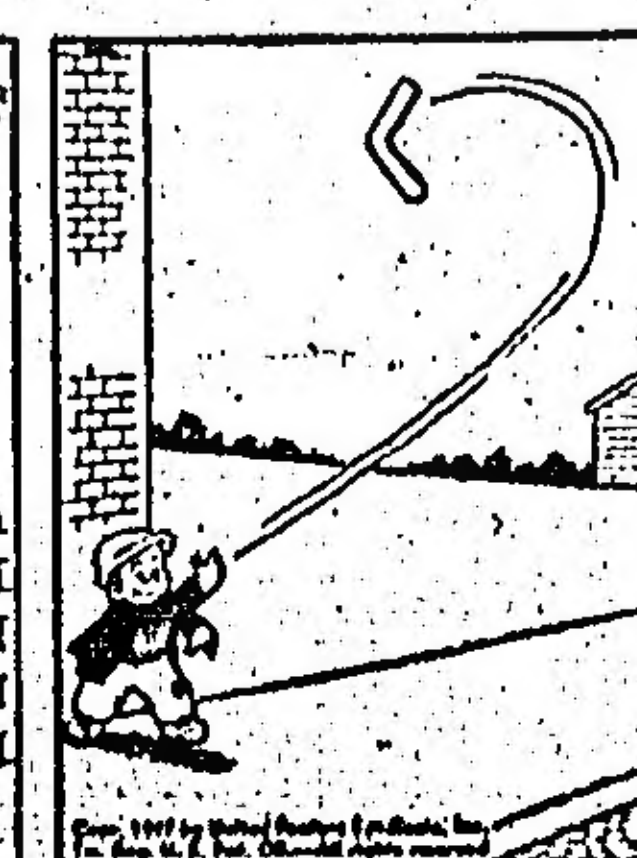
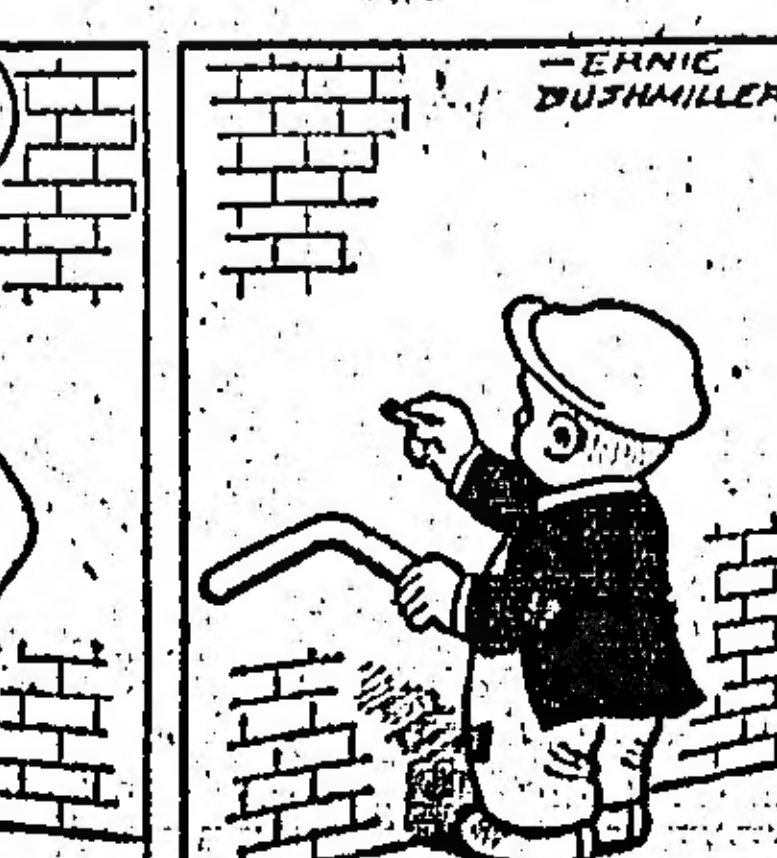
Miss K.: Which ones, sir?

Suet: Both.

Song from "Sordello"

A man with a face like a horse
Eroke into a mansion by force,
They gave him some hay,
And sent him away.
Saying, "This isn't Plumpton,
of course!" (Browning.)

NANCY Stand-in

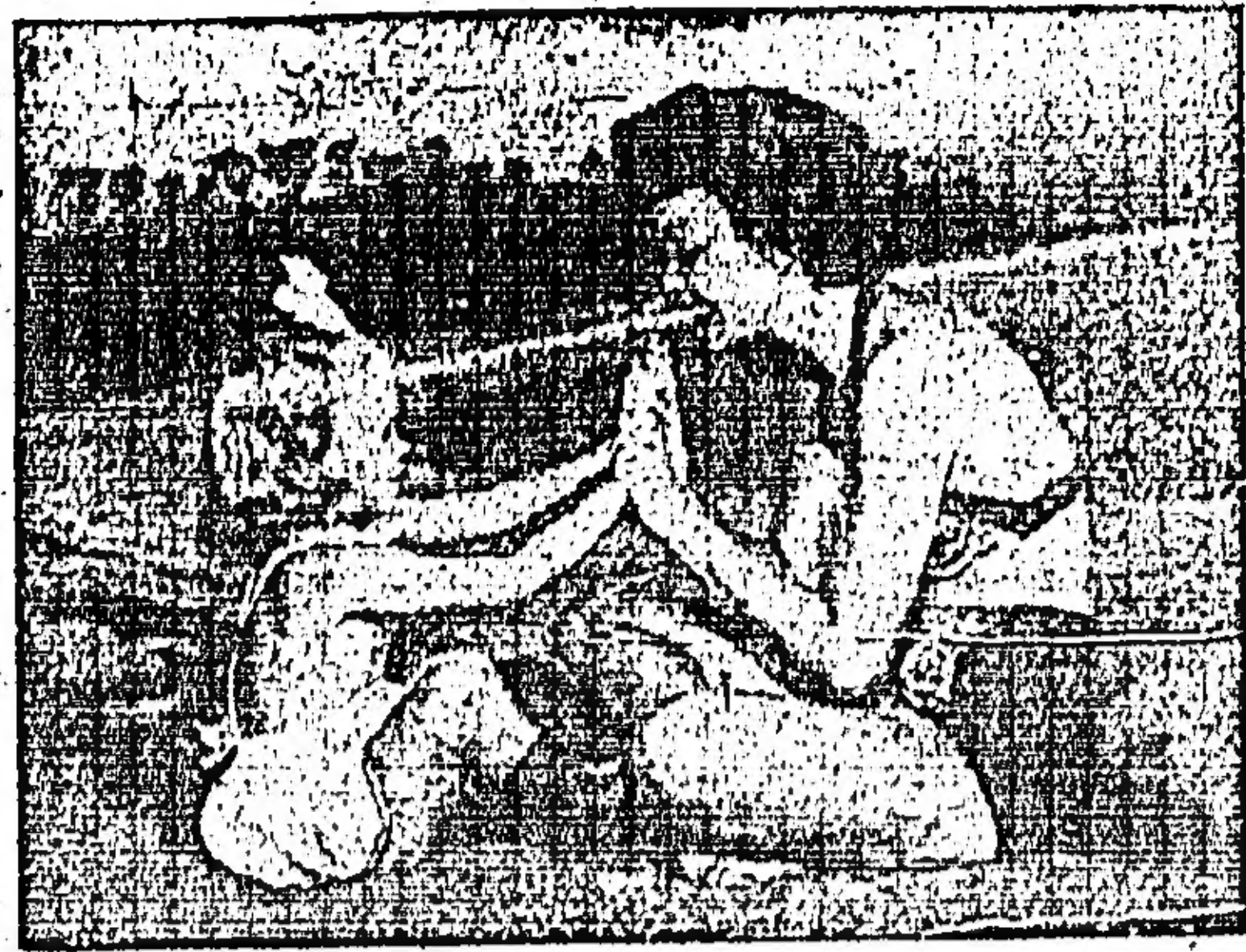


**When You Feel Tired
and Restless**
Ask For
**ELLIOTTS
TONIC**
On Sale at All Dispensaries

Women BEAUTY ARTS

This Space Every Day

By LOIS LEEDS



Posed by Jane Wyman for Lois Leeds.

Try out these Glamour Tips given to you by Lois Leeds.

STAR SHINE!

Jane Wyman takes her sunbaths right along with her little daughter. And she makes a gay time of their sunbaths. This would be a good idea for you to try out.

Glamour Tip! White coats top off a last year's basic Black dress, giving just the touch of Glamour to make you feel well dressed. Wide pleated poplins of Black taffeta can be worn as apron. Black is smart with anything.

Straw earrings let again the Glamour hat of this year. They wear earrings of plain ribbon. They clothes are just as functional as ever but twice as feminine. Women have gotten fed up with the plain, ugly clothes for sports. Ruffled shorts will never spoil a game.

Home Glamour! Sheets and pillow cases made of cotton, sprinkled with Rose designs, make any woman want to be a Sleeping Beauty! And if you are a Sleeping Beauty it follows that you will be a waking beauty. One pretty girl whom I know wears Pink lipstick to

match her flower-laden sheets! Nice idea.

Hormonal! Yes, creams really do contain certain hormone elements and there is no cream that can do a better job for the overly dry or aging skin. There are many such creams in the cosmetic counters now. Look them over carefully, choose wisely and use them for a real effect.

DRESSES BARE HIPS

A barely veiled hipline recently made its appearance on the New York fashion stage, but its design was modest enough that not an eyebrow was raised.

The new transparency turned up in evening dresses with black lace and net from waist to knee over flesh-colored slips.

Black taffeta was interspersed with large-patterned black lace on the first hip-baring dress. The flesh-colored slip was slim beneath a wide skirt whose taffeta hem rustled from knee down. The top of the dress carried a lovely off-shoulder yoke of taffeta, if one was lacking.

Another black dance dress used not for its thigh-line interest—inset in diamond clipped bands between the solid stripes for a long, lithe hipline. This came with a wide shouldered ace-of-spades neckline also filled in with black net—over real fish.

Other evening dresses circled the hips with semi-transparent bandings. One transparent hip band was almost covered with tiny black taffeta flowers. The bustline of the dress matched the hips.

Another carried triple bandings over the side of each hip over pink stuff.

These ladies will be wearing these, their designer predicted, at diplomatic functions this autumn. United Press.

NAZIS SPIRITED OUT OF AUSTRIA

A powerful underground organization is getting leading Nazis out of Austria—with a view to a Nazi comeback. No other explanation is possible for the series of "escapes" during the past few weeks of important Nazi prisoners awaiting trial for their lives, says a Daily Mail correspondent.

TIGER SKIN TRADE IS HARD HIT

Business in tiger and leopard skins, which before the war was one of Singapore's smaller and more picturesque industries, is at the moment hard hit by the uncertainty both of supply and demand, although a small local demand still continues.

A year ago Chinese importers were taking large regular shipments, but since then inquiries have fallen off, and the skin curers and dealers in Singapore find their main task at the moment is regulating supplies coming in, reports the Sunday Times (Singapore).

On the average today one of the main Singapore firms dealing in tiger and leopard skins is selling about ten skins a month, which shows a decrease over figures before the war when tourists were good customers.

Because of this smaller volume of sales imports have not yet reached a pre-war figure. The biggest shipment in one month recently was 40 skins leopard and tiger skins towards the end of last year.

These included some from seven-foot man-eating tigers trapped in the more remote parts of Siam, where the natives, after killing them, behead the flesh and exchange the skins for goods with enterprising Chinese traders.

The price of skins varies a good deal with size and quality. A good tiger skin will fetch \$50, (Straits), while an ordinary leopard skin brings only \$20. Both these figures are about double what they were before the war.

Some of the skins are bought as ornamental rugs, when they fetch higher prices because of the care needed in preparing them, but most are made in bags, belts and even shoes.

The claws are bought by some Indians to wear as charms, and the bones are considered by some Chinese physicians to be good cures for ailments like rheumatism.

World's Oldest Postage Stamp

A tiny rectangle of paper, supposedly the world's oldest postage stamp, has been rediscovered in the small Italian Adriatic coastal town of Cerignola. It was purchased for a "considerable amount" by agents of Louis Massabo de Villas, a Mexican philatelist.

The ancient stamp bears no date mark, but was attached to a letter written on March 22, 1800, in which an Aleppo merchant gave secret information to the "Magna Cent Messer Leonardo" Count of Venice about Napoleon's plans for the conquest of Rome.

More than 34 years older than the world's recognized oldest postal stamp—the British one-penny edition of May 6, 1840—the Aleppo stamp carries no indication of national origin but only the legend "Genoa Cadiz Post" and a figure representing the Virgin and Child. Its expressed value is one "patacca," an old and long valueless Portuguese coin.

Hidden through two world wars, the Aleppo stamp narrowly missed being lost when the liner Titanic sank off Newfoundland after striking an iceberg in 1912. An American agent had intended to buy the stamp and ship it on the Titanic, but called off the transaction when suddenly ordered home by his firm.

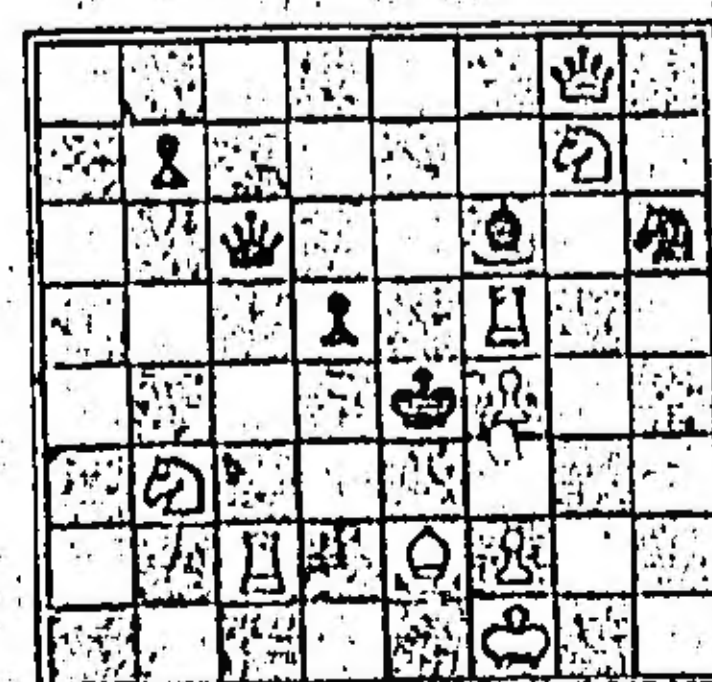
Million Dollar Singapore Show

Goods worth over \$1,000,000 (Straits) are to be displayed in the trade exhibition at Singapore, which will take place from August 1 to 17.

The goods will range from motor cars, bicycles, furniture and radios to flowers and poultry, and can be bought outright by the public.

CHESS PROBLEM

By S. F. E. FLATAU
Black, 6 pieces.



White, 9 pieces.

White to play and mate in two.
Solution to yesterday's problem:
1. B—B2, 2. Q—B2, 3. B—B2, 4. B—B2, 5. B—B2, 6. B—B2, 7. B—B2, 8. B—B2, 9. B—B2, 10. B—B2, 11. B—B2, 12. B—B2, 13. B—B2, 14. B—B2, 15. B—B2, 16. B—B2, 17. B—B2, 18. B—B2, 19. B—B2, 20. B—B2, 21. B—B2, 22. B—B2, 23. B—B2, 24. B—B2, 25. B—B2, 26. B—B2, 27. B—B2, 28. B—B2, 29. B—B2, 30. B—B2, 31. B—B2, 32. B—B2, 33. B—B2, 34. B—B2, 35. B—B2, 36. B—B2, 37. B—B2, 38. B—B2, 39. B—B2, 40. B—B2, 41. B—B2, 42. B—B2, 43. B—B2, 44. B—B2, 45. B—B2, 46. B—B2, 47. B—B2, 48. B—B2, 49. B—B2, 50. B—B2, 51. B—B2, 52. B—B2, 53. B—B2, 54. B—B2, 55. B—B2, 56. B—B2, 57. B—B2, 58. B—B2, 59. B—B2, 60. B—B2, 61. B—B2, 62. B—B2, 63. B—B2, 64. B—B2, 65. B—B2, 66. B—B2, 67. B—B2, 68. B—B2, 69. B—B2, 70. B—B2, 71. B—B2, 72. B—B2, 73. B—B2, 74. B—B2, 75. B—B2, 76. B—B2, 77. B—B2, 78. B—B2, 79. B—B2, 80. B—B2, 81. B—B2, 82. B—B2, 83. B—B2, 84. B—B2, 85. B—B2, 86. B—B2, 87. B—B2, 88. B—B2, 89. B—B2, 90. B—B2, 91. B—B2, 92. B—B2, 93. B—B2, 94. B—B2, 95. B—B2, 96. B—B2, 97. B—B2, 98. B—B2, 99. B—B2, 100. B—B2, 101. 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INDO-CHINA TRAIN MASSACRE

Paris, July 16. The Agence France Presse, in a dispatch from Saigon, said today that about 40 passengers on the Saigon-Phan-Thiet train were massacred by Viet Nam rebels.

An unspecified number of other persons was injured before French troops, rushing to the aid of the travellers, drove the rebels off, the dispatch said.—United Press.

Marshall Wants More Ruhr Coal

Washington, July 16. While the Secretary of State, General George Marshall, declared here today that the United States Government "very urgently desires an increase" in the Ruhr coal production, British authorities in Berlin stated that the expected announcement of the Anglo-American agreement for raising the permitted level of German steel output had been postponed indefinitely.

General Marshall, addressing press conferences, said that an increase of Ruhr coal production was the fundamental basis of the European reconstruction plan now being worked out in Paris.

While he stressed the "great importance" which he attaches to the Ruhr as being the centre for raw material needed for the rehabilitation of Europe, he insisted that he did not want anything done now that would cast a doubt on the fact that the initiative, as far as the Marshall Plan was concerned at this time, was clearly up to Europe.

According to a Reuters cable from London, no date was known as yet having been set for the coal discussions, but it was confirmed that Sir William Strang, the British political adviser in Germany, would head the delegation to Washington when the discussions start.

Sir William Strang will be accompanied by Lt.-Gen. Sir Brian Robertson, Deputy Military Governor, and other officials.

The United States determination that Germany help in Europe's economic recovery was stressed in Paris today by Mr. Averell Harriman, Secretary of Commerce, who arrived there from Rome on his way to the United States, a Reuters cable reported from the French capital.

Asserting that the United States policy toward Germany had not been modified by the new instructions issued yesterday to General Lucius Clay, the United States Zone Commander, Mr. Harriman added: "The United States has no intention of giving Germany priority in the economic recovery of Europe. We are not giving it priority, but we do intend that Germany shall do its share in the economic recovery of Europe."—Reuters.

STERLING'S STATUS FURTHER CLARIFIED

BY SYDNEY CAMPBELL
Reuters's Financial Editor.

London, July 16.

A further authoritative clarification of sterling's new status was available here today.

"Convertibility" is a misnomer. Britain has undertaken to make sterling available for payments but has not undertaken to convert it into dollars, gold or anything else.

Overseas central banks are entitled to use their transferable sterling anywhere in the world, but private citizens can do so only through their central banks.

Convertibility into dollars can be exercised only by Americans, who ultimately receive sterling for United States exports. This occurs because the Bank of England buys and will continue to buy any sterling offered in New York at 4.0275 dollars but this is only a British policy, not an obligation.

Relatively little transferable sterling is likely to go to New York for conversion. Overseas countries must hold some to finance their future imports.

NOTICE

TUSITALA CLUB

Get-together of members on Saturday 19th from 6-10 p.m. at Club premises. Send names to Mrs. Hun (Maggie) not later 17th at Club premises 6 p.m. Guests welcomed.

DEATH

RAILTON.—At St. Paul's Hospital, Hong Kong, on July 17, 1947, Norman Leslie Howard Raiton, Funeral services at 4.30 p.m. today. Service in the Chapel at 4.45 p.m.

Communist Charges Against Marshall Plan Denied By Harriman

Paris, July 16.

The United States is exporting wheat and coal to shattered Europe "over and above its reasonable capacity," Mr. W. Averell Harriman, U.S. Secretary of Commerce, said here today.

Immigrants Say Ship Was Filthy

Brisbane, July 16.

Passengers who arrived from Shanghai today in the steamship Halekuala said that they had travelled in filthy and unhygienic conditions.

The ship, for which Lloyd's gives an official tonnage of 3,070 tons, brought 170 immigrants including Jews, Spaniards and stateless refugees and seven Australian and American passengers including John Marshall, a former field representative of the United States War Shipping Administration.

The passengers described the ship in a signed statement as "the most barefaced ramp ever to be foisted on the public and on foreign refugees who are trying to rehabilitate their lives."

The statement declared that in one compartment measuring 70 by 30 feet, 48 men, women and children lived without privacy. Each of them was charged £80 and 10 shillings for the trip.

The master of the vessel, Captain Jouquin, said that the accommodation was shown to passengers in Shanghai and they accepted it for what it was worth.

According to Lloyd's Register, the ship is owned by the Inter-Island Steamship Navigation Company and the port of registration is given as Honolulu.—Associated Press.

Cape Town's Gift To Princess

Cape Town, July 16.

Cape Town is to give Princess Elizabeth and Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten a wedding present. It was announced in Cape Town today.

The Mayor, A. B. Bloembergen, is opening a fund of a shilling and upwards and every contributor will have his name on a parchment to go with the present.

It has been suggested that the gift should be a stinkwood table, but no final decision has been taken.—Associated Press.

INDIAN-FRENCH AIR AGREEMENT

New Delhi, July 16.

India and France signed a bilateral air agreement today along the lines of those recently made with the United States and the Netherlands.

In return for routes through India to Burma, Siam, Indo-China and China or through India to the Middle East, India is given the right to fly routes via French points in North Africa, Madagascar and Paris and through Indo-China.—Associated Press.

Mr. Harriman, who is spending two days in Paris at the end of a tour of Germany, Great Britain and Italy, will fly to Washington tonight. He spent this morning conferring with the U.S. Ambassador to France, Mr. Jefferson Caffery, and later saw the French Foreign Minister, M. Georges Bidault, at the Quai d'Orsay.

Mr. Harriman told a press conference that Soviet and French Communist newspaper charges that the Marshall Plan was merely a device to enable the United States to unload its overproduction were "absolutely and utterly untrue."

"Our exports of wheat and coal actually exceed our reasonable capacities," he said. "Naturally, the United States desires permanent markets in Europe for some lines of its surplus production and to be able to buy in Europe again. But our trade relations with Europe at the moment and those envisaged under the Marshall Plan have nothing in common with our long-term trade policy. Actually, it is uneconomical and absurd for us to be exporting coal to Europe. We have been exporting coal and wheat in most of Europe's present emergency needs are so great."

Double Prewar

"I have been trying to impress on our French friends that the United States is making a terrific effort to help Europe. Our wheat production is double that of prewar, and that is not an accident because our farmers have been given every encouragement to increase their wheat production to the highest possible level."

Mr. Harriman denied French assertions that the United States was giving Germany priorities in food-stuff shipments, but said to enable it to carry its share of European reconstruction, the production of food and iron and steel must be stepped up, and only by maintaining the present level of 1,550 calories daily in the combined British and American Zones could even present production levels be kept up.

"As we cannot treat Germany as an economic unit, we have to try to develop life in the two zones so they will be self-supporting. We must bring German production up to the level of the American people. Germans must get better food if they are going to produce coal."—United Press.

OCEAN FLOOR STUDY

Woodhole, Mass., July 16.

A scientific expedition is en route to study the mid-Atlantic Ridge—a rugged mountain range on the ocean floor believed to have been left when the Americas separated from Europe and Asia.

The equipment includes tubes to shoot into the ocean floor to obtain core specimens, a sonic device to measure the depth of mud deposits and submarine cameras.

The ridge, which rises two miles above the ocean floor, runs from Iceland to the Antarctic.

The expedition will attempt to chart underwater mountain ranges and determine the age of the ridge.—United Press.

Deepest Wrinkle

Washington, July 16. The Hydrographic Office of the United States Navy today published a chart of the world's most rugged ocean bottom—a stretch between Korea and New Guinea—based partly on soundings taken by United States warships in wartime.

The chart shows that the deepest wrinkle is 40,000 feet deep in the Mindanao trench and the tops of the highest mountains in eastern Philippines.—United Press.

Mine Explosions Kill 1, Injure 16

Jerusalem, July 17.

At least a dozen British soldiers were wounded, some seriously, in the detonation of two road mines on the outskirts of Jerusalem on Wednesday night. One soldier was killed and four others were wounded earlier in three road mine blasts near Patah Tikvah.

The explosions outside Jerusalem occurred almost simultaneously with a statement delivered to Jerusalem newspapers by Irgun Zvai Leumi, Jewish underground organization in which the resistance group "took the responsibility for acts committed this evening which were intended to relieve Nathanya from the siege."

Nathanya, the Palestinian diamond centre, and the surrounding area have been put under military rule to facilitate the evacuation of Jewish British sergeants held as hostages for three condemned members of the Irgun Zvai Leumi.—Associated Press.



"The first thing on the agenda is to send some postcards so they'll get back home before we do."

Questions On Ceylon Political Offenders

London, July 16.

The Colonial Secretary, Mr. Arthur Creech Jones, told Mr. D. N. Pritt, Independent Labour member, in the House of Commons today that in the absence of any specific recommendation from the Governor of Ceylon, he did not propose to take any action to secure that political offenders in Ceylon were eligible for election to the new legislature.

Efforts To End War In Indonesia

Batavia, July 16.

No decision was taken by the Republican Cabinet at Jogjakarta today on proposals put forward by the Netherlands Indies Lieutenant Governor-General, Dr. Hubertus van Mook, with respect to a joint germicide and cessation of hostilities.

This was reported by Aneia's (Dutch news agency) special correspondent at Jogjakarta who flew there together with the ministers, and was confirmed by Vice Premier Setiadjit and Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Tamiel on their return to Batavia this afternoon.

A decision is expected tonight when the Cabinet meets again in the presence of the Forming Committee of the Republican Parliament. Premier Amir Sjarifoeddin is expected to bring the decision personally to Batavia tomorrow by special plane.—United Press.

Major Dutch Concession

The Indonesian Parliamentary Working Committee began the study of new Dutch proposals today for ending the undeclared war between the Indonesians and the Dutch.

"First reports said that they met with cool reception. The committee went into session shortly after the plane bringing Vice-Premier Setiadjit and Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Tamiel took off again for Batavia, reportedly to ask an extension of time to consider the Dutch proposition."

The Dutch programme is understood to be: 1. The Dutch recognise that the problem of internal security is the Republic's. This is a major concession by the Dutch. 2. Cessation of all fighting around demarcation lines. 3. The Indonesian police force will be under the interim government controls and special Dutch police units will be stationed in strategic points throughout Java for emergencies. 4. Abolition of the present demarcation lines.—United Press.

Inspection By Gani

Batavia, July 16. The Vice-Premier of the Republic, Dr. A. K. Gani, told the Dutch agency today at Jogjakarta that he was travelling to Sumatra within a few days to inspect the situation at the demarcation lines.

He said other Republican officials would do the same in Java.—United Press.

"Evita" Undecided About Paris

Paris, July 16. Senator Fernandez, Nunez, first secretary of the Argentine Embassy, said today it is still not known whether Senator Nunez would definitely go to Paris.

Previously an official at the Embassy told United Press that Senator Nunez was scheduled to arrive on July 21.

"Personally, I believe she will come, but we are not yet in a position to definitely announce a date of her arrival," Senator Nunez said.—United Press.

TO-DAY'S BROADCAST

ZBW Hongkong, broadcasting on a frequency of 645 kilocycles from 12.30 to 2 p.m., and 6.30 to 11 p.m., and also on 6.30 megacycles in the 21 metre band from 12.30 to 1.10, 2.30 to 3.30 and 11.10 to 11 p.m.

6.30 "Request Variety Favourites"; 7 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 7.30 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 8 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 8.30 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 9 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 9.30 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 10 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 10.30 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 11 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 11.30 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 12 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 12.30 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 1 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 1.30 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 2 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 2.30 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 3 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 3.30 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 4 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 4.30 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 5 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 5.30 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 6 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 6.30 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 7 p.m. "Request Variety Favourites"; 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